

I am in disagreement with this proposal.

I feel that Morse code is one of the best modes of communication, but I do NOT think it should be required as a test element. It is only one mode in many modes of communication and deserves no special treatment as a testing requirement. If we are to keep code testing, then we should require testing for all modes such as SSB, FM, SSTV, FSTV, RTTY, PACKET, PSK-31, CLOVER and all other modes.

While Morse code is great for weak and degraded signal work, PSK-31 or packet has many advantages for emergency work. They allow computer keyboard operation and they can pull from data files for faster message handling in emergency operations. Also, PSK-31 is almost as good as CW for weak and degraded signals getting thought.

I feel that RM-10869 should be turned down.

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